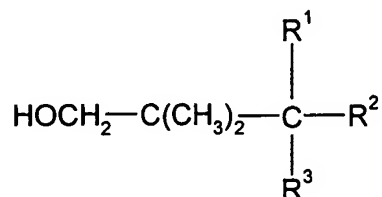


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) A process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols ~~by comprising~~ copolymerization of THF and neopentyl glycol in the presence of a heteropolyacid, wherein the total amount of all impurities of the formula (I)



where R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are each hydrogen when R<sup>3</sup> is an oxyformyl or isopropionate radical, R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen and R<sup>2</sup> is hydroxy when R<sup>3</sup> is an isopropyl radical and R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen when R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together form an  $\text{---OCH}_2\text{---C(CH}_3\text{)---CH}_2\text{---}$  radical,

in the neopentyl glycol is less than 1000 ppm.

2. (currently amended ) [A] The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content of impurities of the formula (I) in the neopentyl glycol is less than 700 ppm.
3. (currently amended) [A] The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the content of compounds of the formula (I) in the neopentyl glycol is achieved by recrystallization, solvent extraction or hydrogenation of technical-grade neopentyl glycol.
4. (currently amended) [A] The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein from 3 to 20% by weight of neopentyl glycol, based on tetrahydrofuran, is used.

5. (currently amended) [A] The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the copolymerization is carried out in the presence of a hydrocarbon.
6. (currently amended) [A] The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein the process is carried out continuously or batchwise.
7. (currently amended) [A] The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the copolymerization is carried out at from 20 to 100°C.
8. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 2, wherein the content of compounds of the formula (I) in the neopentyl glycol is achieved by recrystallization, solvent extraction or hydrogenation of technical-grade neopentyl glycol.
9. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 2, wherein from 3 to 20% by weight of neopentyl glycol, based on tetrahydrofuran, is used.
10. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 3, wherein from 3 to 20% by weight of neopentyl glycol, based on tetrahydrofuran, is used.
11. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 2, wherein the copolymerization is carried out in the presence of a hydrocarbon.

12. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 3, wherein the copolymerization is carried out in the presence of a hydrocarbon.
13. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 4, wherein the copolymerization is carried out in the presence of a hydrocarbon.
14. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 2, wherein the process is carried out continuously or batchwise.
15. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 3, wherein the process is carried out continuously or batchwise.
16. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 4, wherein the process is carried out continuously or batchwise.
17. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 5, wherein the process is carried out continuously or batchwise.
18. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 2, wherein the copolymerization is carried out at from 20 to 100°C.
19. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 3, wherein the copolymerization is carried out at from 20 to 100°C.
20. (new) The process for the single-stage preparation of polyoxyalkylene glycols as claimed in claim 4, wherein the copolymerization is carried out at from 20 to 100°C.